# Memo

To: John Gill and Vem Hughes

From: David Griffiths

CC: Anthony Gill

Date: 01/01/97

Re: Terms of Reference All

## **Income Generation Services**

## (Draft)

There are a number of services provided by the Federation which generate income from members and non-members e.g.

- The sale of publications.
- Seminar/workshop fees.
- > Insurance commission.
- > Legislation Information Sheets

#### The sale of publications

According to information provided by the Secretary at the 12 March 1999 15 co-operatives had purchased 39 publications.

The Secretary provided the names of co-operatives with total number of publications purchased and the total \$ value.

These 15 co-operatives represent 20% of 75 members as of February 1999.

However, 10 of the co-operatives (75%) of those purchasing books only purchased one book each.

Only five co-operatives (6.6%) of the membership of 75 purchased more than one book. Furthermore, **three** of these co-operatives purchased **23** books – **58.96**% of the 39 books sold.

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## Seminar/Workshop Fees

A Making Mutuality Workshop was organised with Edgar Pamell on the 29 March 1999.

Nine members attended the workshop - 12% of a 75 membership as at February 1999:

Co-operative Energy Ltd

Co-operative Purchasing Services Itd

Genetics Australia Co-operative Society

Mirboo North Newspaper Co-operative Ltd

Northcote Rental Housing Co-operative Ltd

North East Victoria Forest Growers Co-operative Ltd

Ruach Community Co-operative Ltd

Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd

Waverley Trading Society Ltd

#### **Insurance Commission**

According to information provided by the Secretary at the 12 March 1999 9 co-operatives used the insurance service.

This represents 12% of a total membership of 75.

## Legislation Information Sheets

According to information provided by the Secretary as of 28 February 1999 51 co-operatives had requested legislation information sheets – 44 members and 7 non-members.

Fifteen information sheets were provided for co-operatives. These were free to members and purchasable by non-members.

Non-members were required to pay either \$10 or \$20 for each information sheet purchased. The non-members purchased a total of 32 information from a possible total of 105 based on 15 information sheets per co-operative.

#### Additional Information

The following additional information would be useful.

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Of the total number of publications sold, how many total and \$ value for Reinventing Co-operation and Co-operation Works! 1 \$10021

Has there been any income from publications placed with bookshops (e.g. International and Swinburne) and how long have these books been placed with these bookshops.

What has been the annual insurance income since the establishment of the insurance service?

What has been the total income earned from selling legislation information sheets to non-members? 1900 1964

19

#### **Tentative Conclusions**

These are subject to further analysis and additional information.

Income generation services have been limited in their income generation capacity.

Income generation services have been variously promoted in Victorian Co-operative News and National Co-op Update.

Publication sales have been distorted by our "best seller" book - Edgar Pamell's Reinventing Cooperatives. We do not have a broad range of publications which regularly sell and we do not have regular 'hot' sellers. It is difficult to place and sell co-operative publications within and outside the cooperative movement. It is doubtful that the publications service recovers its costs when account is taken of promotion and administrative costs. The insurance service has existed for x years and has not grown significantly. Seminars and workshops have been infrequent but can be structured for cost-recovery.

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